



February 2012

Dear Parents,

Happy Catholic Schools Week! The motto for the week is "Faith. Academics. Service." These are *always* evident at Saint Matthew School. From the time of our opening mass on Sunday to the prayer service on Friday teachers and students will celebrate all that we are.

Re-registration packets were sent home to you. Please complete all forms and return to school by February 24, 2012. If you are registering a sibling of a St. Matthew student, you may bring the forms for *all* your children to New Registration on any of the scheduled dates. If you are interested in the Fixed Tuition Plan you are encouraged to attend New Registration on Thursday evening, February 9 when the plan will be explained.

Families who are experiencing financial difficulties should take advantage of the Tuition Assistance Program (PSAS) offered by the Diocese of Metuchen. Grant amounts are based on family circumstances and income. If you are interested in applying, you may obtain forms from the school office. The deadline for filing applications is March 31, 2012.

We are getting ready to begin the annual Math-a-thon. This worthwhile program helps to raise funds for St. Jude Children Research Hospital. St. Matthew students have donated over \$76,000 in the years that we participated! Please encourage your child to take part in this. Starting date is March 1.

Representatives of the local Edison Elks Club paid a visit to the 3rd grade last week. They distributed dictionaries to the children and spoke to them about the importance of education. The Elks Club sponsors several programs that we hope to participate in.

Several of our 7th graders went with St. Matthew parishioners to the March for Life in Washington DC on January 23. Even though the weather was not favorable, the students and their parents made the long walk to the Capitol building. 6th grade teacher Miss Labrego has been a regular participant in the March for Life for several years now.

You may remember that Saint Matthew School was first out of all the schools in the Diocese for donations to the Holy Childhood Association for 2010-2011. Our students are as generous as ever. They gave an outstanding \$990.89 to the Advent Mission collection in December! They are now bringing in pennies to help the Pennies for Patients campaign and toiletries for the Ozanam Shelter. Saint Matthew students and their families are certainly living their faith!

Our 2nd graders are making final preparations for the sacrament of Reconciliation that they will receive on February 8. Please pray for these children as they prepare for both Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

Saint Matthew School received a partial grant to present the CAP (Child Assault Prevention) Program to our Pre-K through Grade 6 classes. The NJ Child Assault Prevention Projects is a statewide prevention program whose mission is to provide schools and communities with information and resources to reduce children's vulnerability to assault. We are arranging dates to present the program with the Middlesex County CAP Project that will include a workshop for parents as well. When we have the dates finalized I will let you know. This project has trained over 2.5 million children and 300,000 parents and teachers since its inception in 1985.

We are also excited that the Franklin Institute will visit Saint Matthew's on April 27 to present a Chemistry Show for our students. The Chemistry Show explores everything from everyday chemistry to the Chemical "detective" work performed by laboratory scientists. Our HSA will generously fund this show for our students.

There are always exciting things going on at Saint Matthew School. No wonder we are so proud of what we are!

You will notice that Friday February 17 is listed as an "unused snow day" on the annual calendar you received at the beginning of the school year. **If we do not use a snow day before then, there will be NO SCHOOL on that Friday.**

Happy Valentine's Day <3

Sincerely,

Eileen Sullivan
Principal



**Congratulations to Our 8th Graders on Their
High School Acceptances!**

Bishop Ahr High School

Gillian Caruso
Richard Corbet
Kaitlin Dower
Jamie Gibson
Samuel Javier
Robert O'Neil
Kaitlyn Prendergast
Mark Quinn
Umar Sannoh
Sabrina Virrey
Maria Wise
Jeanette Yip



St. Joseph's High School:

Deladem Adadevoh
Richard Corbet
Samuel Javier
Robert O'Neil

Cardinal McCarrick High School

Jason Abeleda
Justin Abeleda
Deladem Adadevoh
Richard Corbet
Mark Quinn
Maria Wise
Jeanette Yip

Union Catholic High School

Deladem Adadevoh
Richard Corbet

Immaculata High School

Kaitlin Dower
Maria Wise

Scholarship Congratulations!

Gillian Caruso – Bishop George Ahr
Sabrina Virrey – Mother Seton
Robert O'Neil – Bishop George Ahr

Mother Seton Regional High School

Sabrina Virrey
Jeanette Yip

